**Year Eight English Comparative Essay**

Here is an example of an introduction that you can use.

**Introduction:**

“Cloudbusting by ……. and “Only a Game” by ……. are two stories from the anthology “Things a Map Won't Show You.” Both authors use a range of features in their stories to show cultural differences, including story structure and an interesting use of language, as well as unique characters that change and develop due to the circumstances they face. Finally, both texts present important themes that provide a central focus for the readers.

**Paragraph One:** Write about how “Cloudbusting” is chronological (events in order).

Write about how “Only a Game” is out of order.

Discuss why the authors wrote the stories in this way. Discuss how this helps us understand each story.

T. The story structure in any text is a key element that……………

E. In “Cloud Busting,” we note that………………This is evident because…….

E. An example of this is “…………”

T. In “Only A Game,” the structure is ……..

E. We can clearly see the difference as…

E. A good example of this is ………

L. These elements in both stories demonstrate the importance of structure for the audience interest.

**Paragraph 2 Language**

T. Both authors use language effectively. The language used by Tara Wench in the short story Cloudbusting is ………………..

E. The impact of this on the reader is …………………………

E. A beautiful example of this is……………………………………

L Therefore we note the importance of………………………

T Similarly in “Only a Game” by……………………….

We can note the ……………………language.

E. Such use of language can………………………….

E, The following example highlights the ………………..

L. Therefore both texts …………………………………..

**Paragraph Three** Characters: Write about the relationship between the characters and how they change throughout “Cloudbusting.”

Discuss the relationship between Alice and Sam. How do they feel about each other at the start of the story?

How have their attitudes and knowledge about each other changed by the end of the story? Discuss how Alice's daughter changes throughout the story. How do her feelings and attitude about her mother change?

T. The key characters in Cloud Busting are………………. Both characters actually grow and develop and mature due to………………

E. This is clearly seen when………………………………………..

E. A good example to support this statement is……………..

L. Therefore ……………………………………………………..

T The key characters in “Only A Game”are …………………….

We notice that these characters also change as ….……….. indicating a clear similarity between characters and themes in both texts.

E. The boys from both teams experience. They learn to …………

E A great example of this is……………………………………..

L All the characters mature and develop to make their own decisions…………

**Paragraph Four:** One of the main themes in both these stories is, **acceptance of people who are not like yourself.** Write about how the characters in “Cloudbusting” start to understand each other and overcome their differences. Describe the importance of the friendship between Sam and Alice. What did this really symbolise?

Write about how the characters in “Only a Game” start to understand each other and overcome their differences. What do Lan and his team mates learn about the refugee team?

How do Lan and his team mates form a sense of **empathy** for the refugee team?

Write about the pressures on Lan and his team to go easy on the refugee team, What does Lan decide to do by the end of the story? Why does he do this?

T Both stories have relevant and important themes. The themes in “Cloud Busting” are

E. AS the story develops we note the ………important messages through the various events.

E. The following quotes are accurate examples of the key themes…..

L Therefore…………………………………………………

T In comparison the story “Only a Game” also has similar themes. These themes include…………………………………..

E. Indeed Lan and his team learn the importance of empathy and…………………..

E, This is evident when…………………………………………

L. The significance of tolerance and harmony…….(Sum Up The Above themes)

**Conclusion:** Briefly write about some of the things that are **the same** in “Cloudbusting” and “Only a Game.”

Briefly write about some of the things that are **different** in “Cloudbusting” and “Only a Game”.

For example, are the themes and messages in each story the same?

Is the structure of each story different?

Are the experiences of the characters in each story different or the same?

After a close examination of the story “Cloudbusting” By Tara Wench and “Only a Game” by Ruth Starke in “Things a Map Won’t Show You.” anthology, the reader can understand the importance of story elements such as an effective structure, great language, moving story line and culturally relevant themes……………………. Both texts have (Similarities and Differences)…the above ………………

**Carefully proof read your essay.**